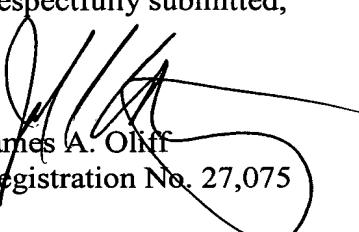


**REMARKS**

Claims 1 - 8 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Figures 2 and 3 in the drawings are replaced with the attached sheets and claims 3 - 4 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong  
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/nxy

Date: December 22, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE  
AUTHORIZATION**  
Please grant any extension  
necessary for entry;  
Charge any fee due to our  
Deposit Account No. 15-0461